## WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH

September 16, 2013

Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation
& Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Nick Rahall
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation
& Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster and Ranking Member Rahall:

Our organization promotes the interests of the hundreds of companies and thousands of employees in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio whose livlihood depends upon safe and reliable water transportation via the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers. We write to express our support for favorable action by your committee and the U.S. House of Representatives to pass H.R. 3080, Water Resources Reform and Development Act.

This bi-partisan legislation is vitally needed for the economic well-being of our nation. We have waited six long years for the opportunity to address reforms necessary to achieve modernization of our inland waterways transportation system. Our organization supports the American Waterways Operators and Waterways Council, Inc.'s recommendations for the inclusion in WRRDA of the bill H.R. 1149, Waterways Are Vital to our Economy, Energy, Efficiency and the Environment. We appreciate your adoption of some of these recommendations and look forward to working with you throughout the legislative process to further achieve the goals of WAVE 4.

Critical to the modernization effort for inland waterways will be favorable action by the Ways and Means Committee to deliver the WAVE 4-recommended diesel fuel user fee increase necessary to construct the lock improvement projects authorized by your committee. We invite your Committee's support for that outcome.

Sincerely yours, Hawk McCouston

David M. McQuiston

President, Waterways Association of Pittsburgh

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